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**DATE:** June 5, 2006  
**FILE NO:** AUTO/0512.C1  
**TO:** MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Jeffrey A. Brier, Examiner  
**FAX NO:** 571.273.8300  
**PHONE NO:** 571.272.7656  
**COMPANY:** USPTO  
**FROM:** Jon K. Stewart  
**PAGE(S) with cover:** 14  
**ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW?** ☐ YES ☒ NO

### RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 3, 2006

**TITLE:** Spacing Objects within a Constraint  
**U.S. SERIAL NO.:** 09/955,434  
**FILING DATE:** 9/10/01  
**INVENTOR:** Peter Sauerbrei  
**EXAMINER:** Jeffrey A. Brier  
**GROUP ART UNIT:** 2672  
**CONFIRMATION NO.:** 1649

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AUTO/0512

JUN 05 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**In re Application of:  
Peter Sauerbrei

Serial No.: 09/955,434

Filed: September 10, 2001

For: SPACING OBJECTS WITHIN A  
CONSTRAINT

§ Confirmation No.: 1649

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Group Art Unit: 2672

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Examiner: Jeffery A. Brier

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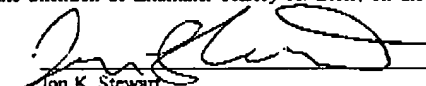
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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via EFS-Web to the attention of Examiner Jeffery A. Brier, on the date shown below:

June 5, 2006 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
Jon K. Stewart**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED ON MARCH 3, 2006**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 3, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 3, 2006, please enter this response and consider the amended claims in the application for the reasons discussed below. While no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AUTO/0512.C1/JKS for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

The pending claims are reflected in the **Listing of Claims** which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.